



PR#111-25

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Ministry of Home Affairs Strongly Condemns Fatal Shooting of Two Innocent Civilians**

*Belmopan. July 7, 2025.*

The Ministry of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries expresses its deepest sorrow and strongest condemnation of the senseless and brutal killing of two innocent civilians on the night of Friday, July 4, 2025. 66-year-old Evadnie Jones and her 39-year-old son, Luke Jones, were gunned down in the yard of their home on Cedar Street in Belize City.

The Minister of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries, the Hon. Kareem Musa, stated:

“There is absolutely no justification for murder, especially the cold-blooded killing of innocent civilians. We condemn this despicable act in the strongest possible terms. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Jones family and the entire community as they mourn this devastating loss.”

The Belize Police Department has been tasked with acting swiftly and decisively to apprehend those responsible. Investigations are ongoing, and additional resources are being deployed to the affected areas to maintain public safety and prevent any retaliation or further escalation.

“The Belize Police Department will not rest until those responsible are brought to justice,” Commissioner of Police Dr. Richard Rosado said. “We are committed to protect every citizen, and work in communities to counter the efforts of those who seek to disrupt peace and instill fear.”

This tragic event underscores the urgency and necessity for stiffer gun and gang legislation to prevent random and callous acts of violence, particularly those committed against law-abiding citizens like Evadnie and Luke Jones.

The Ministry also reaffirms its support for the Leadership Intervention Unit (LIU), which continues to work with individuals seeking a way out of gang life and toward community rehabilitation. This model of intervention and transformation is vital to achieving long-term peace.

The Government of Belize reiterates its zero-tolerance stance on gun violence and urges the public to cooperate with law enforcement. Anyone with information is encouraged to report anonymously through Crime Stoppers or contact their nearest police station.

**Ends**